

Amendments to the Specification

Please insert the following sentence into the first line of the specification:

This application is a National Stage Application of International Application No. PCT/JP03/04590 filed April 10, 2003, which claims priority to JP 109761/2002, filed April 11, 2002.

Please replace the paragraph at page 23 lines 9-16 with the following:

step (1); a step of culturing a cell transformed with an expression vector having one of a nucleotide sequence encoding a peptide having an amino acid sequence of the peptide fragment (hereinafter, referred to as desired peptide in the present item) ~~and~~ or a nucleotide sequence encoding a fusion protein optionally with a protective peptide added to the desired peptide via a linker sequence, and collecting the desired peptide or the fusion protein from the culture;

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 24, line 24 with the following:

step(1); a step of culturing a cell transformed with an expression vector having one of nucleotide sequence encoding a peptide having the desired amino acid sequence (hereinafter, referred to as desired peptide in the present item) ~~and~~ or a nucleotide sequence encoding a fusion protein optionally with a protective peptide added to the desired peptide via a linker sequence, and collecting the desired peptide or the fusion protein from the culture;